

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AGR-10 AID-05 SNM-02 /035 W

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R 151300Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6655

UNCLAS LA PAZ 3362

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR BL

SUBJ: COCA CROP SUBSTITUTION PILOT PROJECT

REF: STATE 106827

1. I VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REFTEL ON THE STAFFING OF THE POSITIONS FOR THE COCA CROP PROJECT AND ALSO THE STATUS REPORT ON THE INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDY.

2. I UNDERSTAND THAT EARL SMITH HAS WRITTEN INFORMALLY TO USDA EXPRESSING AN INTEREST IN SERVING ON THE TEAM. HOWEVER, MR. SMITH IS NOT INTERESTED IN LIVING EITHER IN THE YUNGAS OR THE CHAPARE, AND THEREFORE DOES NOT SEEM TO BE, IN MY JUDGMENT, THE APPROPRIATE PERSON FOR RECRUITMENT. I PREFER THE ALTERNATIVE APPROACH OF HAVING USDA SEND A SPECIALIST TO LA PAZ ON TDY TO BEGIN RESEARCH PRIOR TO ARRIVAL OF RESEARCH TEAM. I WOULD EXPECT TDY MAN TO SPEND CONSIDERABLE TIME IN THE YUNGAS AND CHAPARE ON A FAIRLY COMPREHENSIVE RECONNAISSANCE OF EXPERIMENT STATIONS AND LIVING QUARTERS TO BE USED OR ESTABLISHED IN THOSE AREAS.

3. ALTHOUGH THE COCA CROP PROJECT IS CURRENTLY STRUCTURED TO HAVE A PASA WITH USDA, I AM WONDERING WHETHER OR NOT THERE MIGHT NOT BE QUALIFIED DIRECT-HIRE AGRICULTURAL TECHNICIANS FROM THE VIETNAMESE MISSION WHO WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR PROMPT TRANSFER TO WORK AND LIVE IN THE YUNGAS AND IN THE CHAPARE. CAPABILITY IN SPANISH IS DESIRABLE. DIRECT HIRE PERSONNEL WOULD AVOID THE LONG DELAY BEING EXPERIENCED IN GETTING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE INTO THE AREA WHICH, IN EFFECT, IS THE

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GUTS OF THIS PROJECT. I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF AID/W COULD

ADVISE US AS PROMPTLY AS IT CAN ABOUT THIS POSSIBILITY SINCE
IT WILL HAVE A BEARING ON THE PLANS FOR PASA WITH USDA.
STEDMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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